

REMARKS

I. Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-16

Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,641,533 to Causey. These rejections are moot as claims 1, 6 and 9 have been amended.

"Anticipation requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference disclosure of each and every element of the claimed invention, arranged as in the claim." Lindemann Maschinenfabrik GmbH v. American Hoist & Derrick Co., 730 F.2d 1452, 221 USPQ 481, 485 (Fed. Cir. 1984) (citing Connell v. Sears, Roebuck & Co., 722 F.2d 1542, 220 USPQ 193 (Fed. Cir. 1983)). As set forth below, Causey fails to expressly or inherently disclose at least one element recited in each of the amended independent claims.

Disclosed in the present application is an access control system having an intelligent display and an interactive user interface (pages 6-7, paragraphs [0016]-[0017]). The user interface 207 can be used to monitor system activities and provide diagnostic information (page 22, paragraph [0064]). In addition, the user interface 207 can be used for maintaining all the information related to the access control system including retrieving a user's access information from a database 204, modifying such information, and uploading the modified information back to the database 204 (page 23, paragraph [0066]). As such, the present claims are patentably distinct as amended, and the rejection of these claims under Section 102 must be withdrawn. Specifically, claims 1, 6 and 9 have been amended to recite "An access control system ... the user interface further operable to be used for at least one of maintaining, retrieving or modifying access control information of the access control system."

Causey does not expressly or inherently disclose an access control system or a user interface capable of maintaining, retrieving or modifying access control information. In contrast, Causey discloses a handheld PDA for use with medical devices, in particular, a PDA to facilitate testing and monitoring of a patient's condition (col. 1, lines 22-27). Causey fails to disclose an access control system. Furthermore, Causey fails to disclose a

user interface capable of maintaining, retrieving or modifying access control information.

Accordingly, as Causey fails to expressly or inherently disclose each element of amended independent claims 1, 6 and 9; the Section 102 rejection of these claims should be withdrawn. Since claims 2-4 and 10-16 depend from and further limit claims 1, 6 and 9, the rejection to these claims should also be withdrawn. Applicants have amended claims 1-4, 6, 9, 13, 14 and 16 for grammatical and antecedent reasons and not for reasons related to patentability.

II. Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance and, accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Should any questions remain regarding the allowability of the application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

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